

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Public Health Inspector



STAINES URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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STAINES URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Committee

Chairman: Councillor C. T. Ridout
Vice-Chairman: Councillor J. H. MacLaren
Councillors R. W. Bragger, R. V. C. Grace, M. V. Hawker,
L. G. Philp, D. G. Rickard.

Staff of the Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health (part-time):

J. K. CRAIG, M.B.E., M.A., M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H. (Resigned 14.7.70) Council Offices, Bridge Street, Staines. Telephone: Staines 55955.

R. ARNALLT JONES, B.Sc., M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

(from 14.7.70—retired 2.9.70)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

H. B. THOMPSON, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

(from 1.8.70)

Chief Public Health Inspector:

JOHN MULLIN, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., A.I.HSG.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

R. I. SHEPHERD, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I

Public Health Inspectors:

G. A. EVANS, M.A.P.H.I.

(deceased 8.10.70)

G. WALTON, M.A.P.H.I.

J. A. K. GARRATT.

Technical Assistants:

H. A. CROUCHER

(Retired 9.10.70)

A. H. FULLER.

A. FENWICK (from 1.9.70)

Chief Clerk:

Miss L. M. PERRYMAN.

Public Analyst:

J. A. PALGRAVE, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE STAINES U.D.C.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dr. J. K. Craig, your Medical Officer of Health since June 1968, left on 14th July 1970 to take up an appointment as Deputy Director of Medical Health Services, Hong Kong. Dr. R. Arnallt Jones, formerly Deputy Medical Officer of Health, was appointed to the post until his retirement in September, 1970. He was appointed part-time Medical Officer of Health from October 1st, but was unable to take up the position due to ill-health and he resigned at the end of the year.

I have to record with regret the sudden death of Mr. G. Alan Evans who had been a Public Health Inspector in this Department since 2nd February 1948. He was always a loyal and conscientious member of the department and is greatly missed by his colleagues.

The Registrar General's Annual estimate for the population of Staines in May 1970 is 56,850 compared with 56,610 at the same time in 1969.

There were seventeen deaths of infants under one year, this is the same as last year. The main causes of death were prematurity and congenital abnormalities. There is a considerable amount of research being conducted at the present time into the prevention of both premature births and congenital abnormalities.

One of the ways that we are trying to cut down the number of babies born with congenital defects is by offering vaccination against Rubella (German measles) to all girls between 11 and 14 years. This campaign was started this autumn by offering vaccination to all the girls in their 13th year either at school by the School Medical Officer or by their General Practitioner. I am glad to say over 80% of the girls were vaccinated. Next year the girls in the second year of the senior schools will be offered this protection.

During the summer there was a general increase in the number of measles cases in England and Wales. Sir George Godber, Chief Medical Officer for the Department of Health & Social Security, advised parents of susceptible children to obtain protection by vaccination for them, and there was an immediate increase in the number of vaccinations against measles done in the Child Health Clinics and also by the General Practitioners. It is very important that a high percentage of children are protected against measles before

starting school, preferably between the ages of one and two years, in order to try to eliminate the disease altogether. There were 24 deaths from measles in England and Wales in the first half of the year.

There is a remarkable difference between males and females in the death rate for this year. The list of causes of deaths shows that this increase of male over female deaths has mainly occurred in the middle age groups from two causes:—

- 1. Ischaemic heart disease, which includes deaths from coronary thrombosis.
 - 2. Cancer of the lung.

Deaths from both these diseases is much higher in those who smoke cigarettes and if only people could be persuaded to give up smoking cigarettes the death rate, in the middle age group particularly, would be considerably lower.

In the late summer there was a rapid extension of El Tor cholera westwards towards the Mediterranean area, and the question of its possible importation into Britain had to be considered. Since September 18th 1970 a valid certificate of vaccination against cholera has been required from every traveller who, during the five days prior to arrival in the United Kingdom, has been in any country which has been notified to the World Health Organisation as currently infected with cholera. Any travellers entering this country from an infected area without a certificate are placed under observation by the Medical Officer of Health of their home district for the quarantine period. Fortunately there were no such cases in the Staines area in 1970.

This country is considered to be non-receptive to cholera because of the sufficiently high standards of environmental and food hygiene found here.

I should like to thank Mr. J. Mullin, Chief Public Health Inspector and Miss L. M. Perryman, Chief Clerk, for all the help and encouragement they have given to me since I have been Deputy Medical Officer of Health and especially since Dr. Jones retired in September; without their co-operation and assistance I would have found my task very much more difficult. I would also like to thank all the staff of the Public Health Department for their support which is much appreciated.

I, am, Ladies and Gentlemen, Your obedient servant, H. B. THOMPSON.

General Statistics

Area — 8,271 acres Population (estimated Number of houses, but Rateable value at 1.4 Sum represented by a	ungalows and fl 1.70	ats at 1.4.70	•••	56,850 18,910 £3,720,967 £16,954
	Vital Stat	tistics		
Live Births Legitimate Illegitimate		<i>Male</i> 459 28	Female 424 20	883
		487	444	931
Live Birth Rate (per Comparability fa	actor is 0.89 give	ving adjusted	d birth ra	
of Birth Rate Engl Illegitimate live			• • •	14.6 16.0 5.0
Still Births Legitimate Illegitimate Still Birth Rate per Still Birth Rate	 1,000 Live and	11 — Still Births	Female 5 1	16 1 18
Total Live and Still	Births	• • • •	• • •	948
	Male Female .	286 191		
		477		
Death Rate (per thou Comparability fa	. .	,		8.4
of			•••	10.7
Death Rate England				
Infant Deaths under Infant Mortality Rate	•			17 18
Infant Mortality Rate		,		18
Legitimate infant dea	0			19
Illegitimate infant de				
Neo-natal Mortality	_			13
Early Neo-natal Mor				12
Perinatal Mortality F Maternal deaths (inc				30
Maternal mortality ra	_	,		

Causes of Deaths 1970

Causes of D	eaus 1	9/0			
Disease				Male	Female
Tuberculosis of respiratory system.			• • •	1	_
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavit	y etc		• • •	3	_
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus.	• • •		• • •	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach .		• •		9	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine .		• •	• • •	11	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronc	hus .		• • •	30	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast		• •	• • •		12
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	• • • •	• •			4
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	• • • •	• •	• • •	2	_
Leukaemia		• •	• • •	2	3
Other malignant Neoplasms			• • •	22	9
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	•	• •	• • •	_	1
Diabetes Mellitus		• •		1	1
Other Endocrine, etc., Diseases			• • •	2	2
Amagnaias		• •	• • •		1
Other Diseases of Dland etc	• • •			1	
14 1.1 1 0 1 1	• • •	• •	• • •	2	
Other Diseases of Nervous System,				2	3
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease				4	3
Hypertensive Disease			• • •	6	9
Ischaemic Heart Disease				79	40
Other forms of Heart Disease			• • •	8	11
Cerebrovascular Disease		• • •	•••	13	23
Other diseases of Circulatory System		•	•••	18	12
Influenza	•	• • •	• • •	4	1
Pneumonia	•••	• • •	• • •	16	14
		• • •		11	7
A .1		• • •	• • •	1	
Other diseases of Respiratory Syst		• • •	• • •	2	2
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia		• • •		3	
Other diseases of Digestive System		• • •	• • •	3	1
Other diseases, Genito-Urinary System		• • •	• • •	2	1
Diseases of skin, Subcutaneous Tis		• • •	• • •	1	
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal Syste		• • •	• • •	1	1
		• • •	• • •	-	
Congenital Anomalies		• • •	• • •	6	3 2 1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.		• • •	• • •	2	1
Other causes of Perinatal Mortali	-	• • •	• • •	2	
Symptoms and Ill Defined Condi		• • •	• • •	1	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents		• • •	• • •	6	4
All other Accidents			• • •	6	_
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries		• • •		3	_
All other external causes	• • •	• • •	• • •	_	2
				206	101
				286	191
				-	-

INFANT DEATHS

			Und	ler	1 Mon	th		Total
	Und 1 d	ay	1- da	ys	1 week			under 1 month
	M	F	M	F	M F	\mathbf{M}	F M F	M F
Congenital Abnormalities	1	1	1	1		- 1 -		3 2
Prematurity	1	3	3					4 3
	2	4	4	1		- 1-		7 5

	1 M	onth and	under :	1 Year	Total
	1-2	3-5			1 month & under
		months			1 year
	M F	MF	MF	MF	M F
Congenital					
Abnormalities	1 —			- 1	1 1
Pneumonia	2 —				2 —
Intestinal					
Obstruction		1 —			1 —
	3 —	1 —		— 1	4 1
TOTAL	TNIEA	NIT DEA	TIIC AT	TACES	2 11 6

TOTAL INFANT DEATHS ALL AGES 11 6

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

	Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5-9 yrs.	10-14 yrs.	15-24 yrs.		Age un- known	Total
Scarlet Fever						6	2				8
Whooping					_	U	2				O
Cough	2	—	1	_	1	_	_	_	_	1	5
Measles	1	7	2 0	15	13	55	3	2	_	2	118
Infective											
Jaundic	e —	_		_		_	-	_	1	_	1
Acute Meningi	itis —	_	_	_	_	1	_	1	1		3
Food											
Poisonir	ng —		1	_			1	5	2		9

TUBERCULOSIS

		NO	TIF	ICATION	S I	EATHS
Age Periods		Pulm.		Non-Pulm M. F.		Non-Pulm. M. F.
0— 1	• • •		_			
2— 4	• • •		_			
5—14	• • •	1	_			
15—24						
25—34	• • •		1			
3544						
45—54	• • •	1	2		- 1 —	
55—64		1	_			
65 74		_				
75—84	• • •					
		3	3		- 1 –	

Food Poisoning

There were nine reported cases of food poisoning in the area during 1970. Four of these were due to Salmonella enterididis and two of them to Salmonella typhi-murium. No food poisoning organisms were found in three cases. There was no spread of this infection by any of these patients. One case of Salmonella enterididis was most likely the result of eating frozen chicken which had not been sufficiently well cooked.

Four of these cases were probably contracted abroad, and any persons returning from abroad suffering from diarrhoea would be well advised to contact their doctor for investigation and treatment.

This is especially important if in the course of their work they handle fresh or cooked food.

Water

Most of the area is supplied with mains water by the South West Suburban Water Company. The company's works are situated on the river Thames near Staines and the raw water is taken from the Thames and pumped direct to mains after rapid filtration and purification. All the dwellings in the area are provided with pipe supplies direct to the dwellings and there are no dwellings on stand pipe supply. It was not found necessary to take action on any form of contamination of the mains water and the supply continues to be satisfactory in quality and in quantity.

Six hundred and sixty dwellings in the Colnbrook area are supplied by the Middle Thames Water Board and 69 dwellings near Chertsey Bridge on the river Thames are on the Woking and District Water Company's mains. Frequent and regular chemical and bacteriological samples of the raw and treated water are taken by the water undertakers and check samples are taken from time to time by this department. All the samples have been satisfactory and none of the water contains added fluoride. The fluoride content of the South West Suburban water and Woking water is normally 0.2 parts per million. The water supplied to the Colnbrook area is from several sources and averages 0.3 parts per million of fluoride. Agreement of all the local authorities supplied by these water boards is still awaited on the question of adding fluoride to the water.

Sewerage

The area has an adequate sewerage system. The sewage is treated at the Mogden works of the Greater London Council.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Weekly collections have been maintained and there were few complaints during 1970. Disposal of refuse continues to be by incineration at the Charlton Plant, which since the reorganisation of London local government is under the control of the Greater London Council.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

This is the last report I shall submit before my retirement in April 1971 and it is perhaps appropriate that I should look back over the 25 years of my service with the Council and consider what progress has been made in environmental health.

During the early post-war years, because of the shortage of houses, labour and materials, it was not possible to demolish unfit houses and it was difficult to get essential repairs done—in fact there was in force at that time a limit of £10 on the cost of works carried out without a licence. A start was made, however, on clearance of unfit dwellings as soon as this became practicable and the first unfit houses were demolished in 1949. Between 1949 and 1970, 470 unfit houses were demolished, and this completed the proposed programme of demolition of unfit houses for the area.

The post-war housing shortage brought many problems, and during this period when I also served as Housing Manager, there were difficult times. There was a lengthy waiting list of applicants for Council houses, there were requisitioned properties to look after, and from time to time squatters to be dealt with. Indeed, in those days when a five day week was not in operation, it was necessary to close the office door on Saturday morning at noon in order that the people waiting to be interviewed could be dealt with.

As regards sewerage and drainage it is worth recalling that the work of extending the sewers in the district was able to start again after the war with the laying of sewers in the Stanwell area in 1947 (that part of the district being at that time not sewered) followed by the provision of sewers in the Poyle and Stanwell Moor area, and more recently in the Moor Lane area. This made it possible to abolish cesspools or pail closets at 800 dwellings and connect the drainage to the sewers. In addition to the private dwellings connected to the sewer, it was also possible to connect the factories on the Poyle Trading Estate to main drainage, and this was a very necessary improvement. The laying of these sewers completed the sewering of the area and it is worth recalling that between 1930, when sewers were laid in the area and 1968, over 5,000 cesspools were abolished.

The Housing Act 1949 introduced the scheme for the improvement and conversion of houses, but the amount of grant together with the conditions in force at that time made the scheme unattractive to owners of dwellings and there was not any substantial number of houses improved until the Housing Act of 1969, with its increased grants and removal of most of the conditions, together with the possibility of the house being taken out of rent control, made the scheme much more viable.

I have always had a keen interest in atmospheric pollution and when the Clean Air Act 1956 came into operation, I was glad to have the opportunity of reporting to the Council on the desirability of introducing smoke control areas, and it is with pleasure I record the support I received from the Council which enabled me to submit the twelfth and final smoke control area in November 1970. This has been a labour of love because I am a firm believer in the value of clean air, and I should say that this could not have been done without the support of the public, since there have only been one or two objectors to the making of a smoke control order during the preparation of the various schemes. In fact, I think it right to say that there has been public support to a considerable extent, and I know of old persons who once they had got rid of their old coal fires and experienced modern heating on tap, declared that they wished they could have had the benefit of it years before.

The development of London Airport Cargo Terminal continued and the offices and freight warehouses of B.E.A. and B.O.A.C. became occupied early in 1970. The Public Health Inspectors are responsible for duties under the Imported Food Regulations 1968. These require the inspection of foods imported through the Terminal, and to facilitate the work an office was opened at the Cargo Terminal in September 1970. This is staffed by a Public Health Inspector during the day, and in order to provide the 24 hour cover required by the Airlines and Agents, all of the staff take part in a duty roster whereby they are on call by telephone from their own homes after office hours and at weekends. The foods imported by air are usually of high quality or are out-of-season fruits and vegetables. There is also regular traffic in fresh vegetables imported for the use of immigrants now in Britain.

May I say in conclusion that I have enjoyed serving the residents of the area during the past twenty-five years.

John Mullin.

Summary of Inspections

Public Health or Housing Ac	ets				1,229
Improvement Grants .	• • • • •		• • •		295
Housing Act, 1969	••				397
\mathcal{O}					12
Food and Drugs Act Sampli	ing				86
					2,038
Food Hawkers					12
Food Inspections					442
London Airport Cargo Term	ninal				1,443
Pet Animals Act					5
Drainage Works	••				314
Factories Act, 1961					339
Clean Air Act, 1956	••				1,761
Rodent Control (inspections a	and surv	vey)			1,226
D . C . 1	••	- 1			166
Keeping of Animals	• • • • •				107
T 6					9 8
Offensive Trades					164
Caravan Sites and Control of	Develop	ment A	ct, 196	0	43
D 111 C					40
Pollution of streams					71
Refuse tips					169
TT-1-1					29
Offices, Shops and Railway F					708
Merchandise Marks Acts .					164
Labelling of Food Orders .					343
Miscellaneous					298
London (Heathrow) Airport,	Sound p	roofing	Schem	e	118
, , ,		0			
					12,117

Number of Notices Served

	Informal	Formal
Public Health Act, 1936	48	
Food and Drugs Act, 1955	19	
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act,		
1963 (Notifications)	19	
Clean Air Act, 1956		16
	86	16

Housing Act, 1957

Unfit Houses beyond repair

Details of houses dealt with during 1970

Closing Orders				• • •	• • •	• • •	-
Demolition Or				•••	• • •	• • •	
Houses demolis		_		ders	• • •	• • •	5
Parts of Buildi			18	• • •	• • •	• • •	
Number of pe			• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	5
Number of far	milies displac	ed	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	1
	Cı	LEARANCE	AREAS	8			
Number of Cl	earance Area	s represe	nted	• • •	• • •	• • •	
Number of uni	fit houses incl	uded in	Areas	• • •	• • •	• • •	
Number of per	rsons to be d	isplaced	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	unius and the same of the same
Number of hor	uses demolish	ed by Lo	ocal Au	thority o	or		
Owners: —							
(a) Unfit	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	3
(b) Other	rs	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	
Number of pe	rsons displac	ed	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	-
Number of far	milies	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	
NUMBER OF	HOUSES REN	DERED F	T AFTE	R SERVI	CE OF	Notici	ES
	Housing A	ct, 1957	Public	Health		Fotals	
	Sec. 9. 1	0. 16.			. ,		
	Testamenal	Eaumal 1	and amount of	E ause al	fort ourse	aal Maa	4444
D. O.	Informal	Formal 1					_
By Owner	Informal	Formal 1	informal 27		1nforn 27		_
By Owner	—	Formal 1 — ousing A	27	11			_
By Owner	—	_	27 ct, 1969	11			_
•	— Но Імри	ousing A	27 ct, 1969 T Gran	11 • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	27	1:	1
The number	He IMPE of applicati	ousing A ROVEMEN ons for in	27 ct, 1969 T GRAN	11) ITS ment gr	27	1: s incre	1 eased
The number considerably a	He IMPE of applications expected contacts	ousing A ROVEMEN ons for inconsequent	27 ct, 1969 T GRAN mprove t upon	11 TS ment gr the con	27 ants ha	1: s incre	1 eased
The number	He IMPE of applications expected contacts	ousing A ROVEMEN ons for inconsequent	27 ct, 1969 T GRAN mprove t upon	11 TS ment gr the con	27 ants ha	1: s incre	1 eased
The number considerably a	He IMPR of applications expected content of the con	ousing A ROVEMEN ons for inconsequent	27 ct, 1969 T GRAN mprove t upon	11 TS ment gr the con	27 ants ha	1: s incre	1 eased
The number considerably a the Housing A	He IMPE of applications expected contents	ousing A ROVEMEN ons for in onsequent e latter p	27 ct, 1969 T GRAN mprove t upon	11 TS ment gr the con	27 ants ha	1: s incre	ased ce of
The number considerably a the Housing A Standard Gra No. of applica	He IMPH of applications expected control of the interval of th	ousing A ROVEMEN ons for in onsequent e latter p	27 ct, 1969 T GRAN mprove t upon	11 Triangle in the contact year	27 ants ha	1: s incre	eased ce of
The number considerably a the Housing A Standard Gra No. of application of dwelling the second sec	IMPE of applications expected contents tions approved gs improved	ousing A ROVEMEN ons for in onsequent e latter p	27 ct, 1969 T GRAN mprove t upon	11 Outs ment gr the contact year	27 ants ha	s increto force	eased ce of
The number considerably a the Housing A Standard Gra No. of applica No. of dwellin Total amount	IMPE of applications expected control of the contro	ousing A ROVEMEN ons for in onsequent e latter p	27 ct, 1969 T GRAN mprove t upon	11 Triangle in the contact year	27 ants ha	s increto force	eased ce of 69 22 3,617
The number considerably a the Housing A Standard Gra No. of application of dwelling the second sec	IMPE of applications expected control of the contro	ousing A ROVEMEN ons for in onsequent e latter p	27 ct, 1969 T GRAN mprove t upon	11 Outs ment gr the contact year	27 ants ha	s increto force	eased ce of
The number considerably a the Housing A Standard Gra No. of applica No. of dwellin Total amount	IMPE of applications expected control of the contro	ousing A ROVEMEN ons for in onsequent e latter p	27 ct, 1969 T GRAN mprove t upon	11 Outs ment gr the contact year	27 ants ha	s increto force	eased ce of 69 22 3,617
The number considerably a the Housing A Standard Gra No. of application No. of dwelling Total amount Average grant Discretionary	IMPR of applications expected control of the contro	cousing A ROVEMEN ons for inconsequent e latter p	27 ct, 1969 T GRAN mprove t upon	11 Outs ment gr the contact year	27 ants ha	s increto force	eased ce of 69 22 3,617
The number considerably a the Housing A Standard Gra No. of applica No. of dwelling Total amount Average grant Discretionary No. of application	IMPH of applications expected control of the contro	ousing A ROVEMEN ons for in onsequent e latter p	27 ct, 1969 T GRAN mprove t upon	11 Outs ment gr the contact year	27 ants ha	s increto force	eased ce of 69 22 3,617 £164
The number considerably a the Housing A Standard Gra No. of application No. of dwelling Total amount Average grant Discretionary	IMPH of applications expected contents tions approved paid in grant per dwelling Grants tions received the service of the ser	ousing A ROVEMEN ons for in onsequent e latter p ed ts	27 ct, 1969 T GRAN mprove t upon	11 Outs ment gr the contact year	27 ants ha	s increto force	eased ce of 69 22 3,617 £164

Housing Act, 1969

No. of applications under Section 44(1) of the Housing Act	
1969 received	348
No. of Qualification Certificates issued under Section 43	159
No. of applications under Section 45(2) refused	2
No. of applications under Section 44(2) of the Housing Act	
1969 received	40
No. of Certificates of Provisional Approval issued	35

The two applications refused under S.45(2) of the Housing Act 1969 were refused on the grounds that the dwellings did not have the

prescribed amenities exclusive to the use of the occupants.

Apart from these two applications refused, 172 applications (not included in the figure of applications received under Section 44(1)) where amenities such as wash-hand basin, hot water supply, bath, indoor W.C. were found to be lacking, were dealt with by sending to the owners a combined form of application for qualification certificate and standard grant, which enabled the owners to apply for qualification certificate under Section 44(2) of the Housing Act 1969 and a standard grant towards the provision of amenities.

Housing Act, 1961, S.16 (as amended by the Housing Act, 1969) Means of Escape in Case of Fire in Houses in Multiple Occupation

A number of houses in the area are let off in flats or apartments and were inspected for fire precautions. 63 houses were inspected and in 32 houses action was taken requiring the owners to take fire proofing precautions. This included the fire-proofing of doors, the provision of self-closure devices to doors and fire-proofing of partitions and parts of stairways. Statutory action was taken in 24 cases and by the 31st December, 1970 the work at 10 houses had been completed.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

The following caravan sites are	licensed.	Residential	Holiday
Land at Penton Hook, Staines	•••	22	
Harris' Boatyard, Laleham	• • • • • • •	6	18
Caretaker Sites	•••	8	

The Council has provided a holiday caravan and camping site at Laleham on the banks of the River Thames. This site is open from May to September each year and is under the control of the Camping Club of Great Britain.

Complaints

Complaints by the public cover a wide range of subjects and during the year 654 complaints were dealt with.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

		No. of Premises	No. of Inspections
Bakehouses	• • •	2	1
Bakers and Confectioners	• • •	12	100
Butchers		27	156
Milk Distribution Depots	• • •	1	9
Food and Drink Manufacturers	• • •	4	2
Fishmongers and Fish Fryers		15	- 72
Food Hawkers	• • •	12	12
Grocers		50	136
Greengrocers		30	126
Public Houses, Clubs and Off Licences		53	34
Restaurants, Cafés and Snack Bars		50	94
School Kitchens and Serveries	• • •	20	24
London Airport Cargo Terminal	• • •	14	1,443
Wholesalers	• • •	12	3
Canteens	• • •	15	12
Supermarkets		13	271
Sweets and Confectionery	• • •	49	59
		379	2,554

Unsound Food Surrendered or Condemned

				Tons	Cwts.	Lbs.
Meat at retail shops	• • •	• • •	• • •	2	9	21
Cooked meat and mea			2	75		
Canned meats	• • •	• • •	• • •	4	3	
Other canned foods	• • •	• • •	• • •		19	63
Fish	• • •	• • •	• • •		11	82
Fruit and vegetables	• • •	• • •	• • •	2	3	55
Other foods	• • •		• • •		16	99
Frozen foods	• • •	• • •	• • •		14	102
		Total		12	1	49

London Airport Cargo Terminal Imported Food Regulations, 1968

1,443 visits were made to the Cargo Terminal to inspect imported foods. The total weight of food examined was 11,044 tons. Details of foods surrendered or condemned as unfit are appended.

					Tons	Cwts.	Lbs.
Fish	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	-	4	102
Fruit		• • •	• • •	• • •	3	12	50
Vegetables		• • •	• • •	• • •	4	15	
Meat	• • •		• • •	• • •		7	1
Other foods	• • •	• • •				2	40
			Total	• • •	9	1	81
						-	

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

Bakehouses Bakers and Confectioners Butchers	No. of Premises 2 12 27	No. fitted to comply with Reg. 16 2 12 12 27	No. where Reg. 19 applies 2 12 27	No. complying with Reg. 19 2 12 27
	1 4 5	1 4 4 15	1 4 4 15	15
Greengrocers	50 30 53	50 32 53	50 32 53	50 32 53
Restaurants, Cafés and Snack Bars School Kitchens	50 20 12	50 20 12	50 20 12	50 20 12
Supermarkets Sweets and Confectionery	15 13 49	15 13 49	15 13 49	15 13 49
	353	355	355	355

Food and Drugs Administration

Samples of Foods and Drugs submitted to the Public Analyst for examination.

	Number of Formal	Samples Informal		ory Reports Labelling	Legal Proceedings
Food	_	153	4	6	Instituted —
Drugs	*********	2	-		**********

Labelling of Food Orders

Six samples of foods were reported by the Public Analyst as not conforming to the Orders dealing with labelling and description of foods. These included dried skim milk, fruit salad, spaghetti sauce mix, grapeade, goat's milk cheese and chicken and ham in mayonnaise. These infringements were taken up with the manufacturer or importer of the product. In all cases satisfactory arrangements were made for the labels or descriptions to be altered to conform to the legal requirements for the product.

In addition a sample of salad cream showed a breakdown in the emulsion, a sample of tomato ketchup showed discolouration, a sample of herbal sweets was deficient in Vitamin C content and a steak and kidney pie did not comply with the requirements of the Meat Pie and Sausage Roll Regulations 1967. These matters were taken up with the manufacturers concerned.

Bacteriological Sampling

Eighteen samples of various foods including milk, cream, ice cream, ice lollies and yoghurt were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. All were reported as satisfactory.

Bacteriological Sampling of foods imported through London Airport Cargo Terminal

Fifty-one samples of meat products, prepared foods, shell fish and fruit were submitted for detailed bacteriological examination to the Central Public Health Laboratory at Colindale. The results were generally satisfactory and in no case were organisms of the salmonella or dysentery groups or coagulase-positive staphylococci found.

Eight samples of fruit and vegetables were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination for pesticide residues. All samples gave a satisfactory analysis for this purpose.

Brucellosis

Milk is supplied to the area by large dairies distributing milk in the Home Counties. All of this milk is pasteurised and any milk produced on dairy farms within the district is sent to large dairies for pasteurisation. Sampling for brucellosis was therefore not necessary.

Legal Proceedings

A firm of bakers was fined £25 with £8 8s. 0d. costs for the sale of mouldy eclairs and £15 with £5 5s. 0d. costs for the sale of a doughnut containing a bristle.

A supermarket was fined £15 with £5 5s. 0d. costs for the sale of skinless mouldy sausages and £15 with £5 costs for the sale of mouldy

wrapped sausages.

A supermarket was fined £20 with £5 5s. 0d. costs for the sale of a steak and kidney pie which was sold in a mouldy condition one week after being delivered to the shop by the manufacturer, and also for the sale of a buttercream sponge cake that was sold in a mouldy condition 5-6 weeks after delivery to the retail premises.

A firm of bakers was fined £10 with £5 5s. 0d. costs for the sale of a loaf containing a piece of wire which was identified as part of

a stainless steel flour sieve used at the bakery.

A firm of bakers were fined £20 with £5 5s. 0d. costs for the sale of a carton of mandarin orange yoghurt containing mould and found from the manufacturing date coding to be almost one month old when sold.

Clean Air Acts 1956/1968

Smoke Control Order No. 10 came into operation on 1st June 1970, while Order No. 11 was confirmed with an operative date of 1st June 1971. Order No. 12 was submitted to the Council in November 1970, and is awaiting confirmation. When Order No. 12 becomes operative it will complete the inclusion of the whole of the area of Staines U.D. in smoke control areas.

Smoka Control Areas

		Smoke Control	Areas	
		Date of	No. of	Acreage
		o peration	Dwellings	covered
No.	1	1.12.60	2,495	1,824
No.	2	1.12.62	878	2,990
No.	3	1.6.63	1,415	518
No.	4	1.7.64	424	126
No.	5	1.7.65	1,703	341
No.	6	1.6.66	2,500	408
No.	7	1.7.67	1,020	157
No.	8	1.6.68	1,218	140
No.	9	1.6.69	1,467	247
No.	10	1.6.70	1,722	500
No.	11	1.6.71	1,450	266
No.	12		387	754
			16,679	8,271

The total number of dwellings included in smoke control areas is less than the present number of dwellings in the whole of the district because the smoke control areas started 12 years ago, and the figures shown for each year were the dwellings in the area at the time of declaration.

Industrial Smoke

Dark smoke—number of contraventions Notice of installation of furnaces	•••	•••	1
Height of chimneys			
Number of plans showing new chimneys	• • •	• • •	1
Number approved			1

Surrey County Council Act, 1931 Deposit of Refuse

Section 94 of this Act provides powers to control the deposit of refuse on land within the Council's area. Seven consents have been issued, these are all for the back filling of wet gravel pits, under conditions laid down in the consent. Deposit of domestic refuse is prohibited, but at one pit the deposit of industrial refuse is permitted.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 Report on Inspections carried out during the year 1970

The number of offices registered during 1970 again increased because of the development of London Heathrow Airport Cargo Terminal. Arrangements for inspections under this Act continue to be as outlined in my report for 1969 and all visits continue to be surprise visits. Verbal notice of any infringements is given by the Inspector at the time and normally followed up by written notification.

Twenty-nine accidents were reported; none of these was fatal; most were of a very minor nature and would not have been reported had not the person concerned been off work more than three days. Twenty out of twenty-nine reported accidents occurred in retail shops or warehouses and nine of these arose from handling goods.

I have no reason for believing that there is any failure of occupiers of registered premises to report accidents under Section 48 of the Act.

With regard to the operation of the Hoists and Lifts Regulations 1968, where such lifts and hoists are installed the installations have been adequately maintained.

Most of the inspections of premises under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 were made during the winter months because this facilitates assessment of the adequacy of the artificial lighting and of the heating of the premises.

Registration and General Inspections

	2 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	
Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection
56	296	233
17	339	300
	12	3
	34	23
73	681	559
	premises registered during the year 56 17	premises registered during the year 56 296 17 339

Analysis of Contraventions

Section.	Number of Contravention found	S	Section.	Number of Contravention found	S
4	Cleanliness	5	16	Floors, passages	
5	Overcrowding			and stairs	6
6	Temperature	4	17	Fencing exposed	
7	Ventilation			parts machiner	y 1
8	Lighting	1	18	Protection of	
9	Sanitary			young persons	
	Conveniences	7		from dangerous	S
10	Washing			machinery	
	Facilities	11	19	Training of	
11	Supply of			young persons	
	Drinking			at dangerous	
	Water			machinery	
12	Clothing Accom-		23	Prohibition of	
	modation			heavy work	
13	Sitting facilities		24	First Aid	
14	Seats (Sedentary			General	
	Workers)			provisions	1
1.5	Eating facilities		Miscell		8
				Total	44

Reported Accidents

	Number	Total No.	Actio			
Workplace	Reported	Invest- igated	Prosecution	Formal Warning	Informal Advice	No Action
Offices	5					5
Retail Shops	10	3		1	1	8
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	10	2		- Constituting the state of the	1	9
Catering Estab- lishments open to public, Canteens	4	1				4
Fuel Storage Depots					_	
Totals	29	6		1	2	26

Analysis of reported accidents.

	Offices	Retail Shops	Wholesale Ware- houses	Catering establish- ments open to public, canteens	Fuel Storage Depots
Machinery	1	2	2		
Transport	_	_	3	_	
"alls of persons	2	2		2	
tepping on or striking against object or person	_	1		_	
Handling goods	1	2	5	1	
truck by falling object		1	_		
ires and Explosions	_	_			
Electricity	_	_			_
Use of hand tools		_	_	1	
Not otherwise specified	1	2			

Factories Act, 1961

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

		Number	Number of			
	Premises	on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted	
(i)	Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	1	_		
(ii)	Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	300	331			
(iii)	Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	12	7		_	
	TOTAL	314	339 -	_	_	

	Number	Number of			
Particulars		Remedied	Referred		cases in which
	Found		To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)				-	_
Overcrowding (S.2)		-			
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)			—		
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)			-	-	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient				_	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1			
(c) Not separate for sexes		-			
Other offences against the Act (not in- cluding offences re- lating to Outwork)				_	
TOTAL	1	1			_

OUTWORK

	Section 133			Section 134		
Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecu- tions
Wearing apparel—Making, etc.	9				_	
Artificial flowers	2					
Fuse making	1	- 1		_	_	

Riding Establishments Act, 1964

It is the duty of the local authority to licence persons keeping a riding establishment. Before issuing a licence the Authority has to be satisfied as to the suitability of the person to carry on this type of business and the general condition of the stables and equipment must be of a reasonable standard. The horses are inspected for condition and suitability for their purpose by the Council's veterinary officer before the granting of a licence. Two establishments were licensed at the end of the year.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963

This Act provides that no person shall keep a boarding establishment for animals except under a licence granted by the Council. Section 1 of the Act prescribes the conditions for granting a licence. These generally have regard to the welfare of the animals and 3 premises are licensed. Another function of these establishments, in view of the proximity of London Airport, is as quarantine kennels for dogs imported through the Airport.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Most of the infestations by rats are of a minor nature. A frequent source of infestation is from rats nesting along the banks of the river Thames and ditches and streams. It is the Council's policy to provide a free service for the eradication of rats and mice at domestic premises and a small charge is made for treatment of business premises.

	Type of Property		
	Non-		
	Agricultural	Agricultural	
Number of properties in district Total number of properties in-	22,437	48	
spected following notification	1,068	rearrant .	
Number infested by			
(i) rats	402		
(ii) mice	260		
Total number of properties in- spected for rats and mice for			
reasons other than notification	1,226	1	
Number infested by			
(i) rats	127	1	
(ii) mice	30	-	



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